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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL CANADIAN POSTS COLLECTIVE

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

S E C R E T STATE 286080

OFFICIAL INFORMAL

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/06/07

TAGS: AMGT, CA

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL INFORMAL - DAILY ACTIVITY REPORTS
- OCTOBER 3 AND 6, 2003

FOR AMB, DCM, POL AND CG'S FROM DIRECTOR BREESE

CLASSIFIED BY WHA/CAN DEPUTY DIRECTOR VELIA M. DE PIRRO.
REASON 1.5. (D).

1. (U) DAILY ACTIVITY REPORT, OCTOBER 3

2. (U) RIDGE/MANLEY MEET IN TORONTO

DHS SECRETARY RIDGE AND CANADIAN DPM JOHN MANLEY HELD THEIR FOURTH (AND LIKELY LAST) FORMAL MEETING TODAY TO REVIEW PROGRESS IN THE SMART BORDER ACCORD. IN A JOINT PRESS APPEARANCE THEY ANNOUNCED THE FORMATION OF A BI-NATIONAL WORKING GROUP TO DISCUSS THE USVISIT PROGRAM, CONTINUED PROGRESS ON SAFE THIRD, AND THE SIGNING OF A SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT. RIDGE DECLINED TO MAKE

ANY FUTURE COMMITMENT REGARDING CANADIAN EXEMPTION FROM USVISIT, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT "PRACTICALITY WILL PREVAIL." RIDGE OPENED HIS REMARKS BY EXTENDING HIS CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF THE TWO CANADIAN SOLDIERS KILLED IN AFGHANISTAN YESTERDAY. (MCCULLA)

3. (U) LIBERALS SWEEP ONTARIO

THE ONTARIO LIBERAL PARTY YESTERDAY WON A LANDSLIDE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CLASSIFIED BY DEPT. OF STATE, L. HEDGBETH, DAS, A/ISS

REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

DECLASSIFY AFTER: 7 OCT 2023

DATE/CASE ID: 02 JUL 2009 200706444

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VICTORY OVER THE INCUMBENT PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES, WINNING 72 SEATS (UP FROM 36) IN THE 103 MEMBER PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE. THE RULING PC PARTY, UNDER PREMIER ERNIE EVES, FELL FROM 56 SEATS TO 24, WITH 14 OF THE 24 CABINET MINISTERS LOSING THEIR SEATS. NEW ONTARIO PREMIER DALTON MCGUINITY SAID SIMPLY "THE PEOPLE OF ONTARIO HAVE CHOSEN CHANGE." WHILE THE VICTORY WAS NOT A SURPRISE, THE SIZE OF THE WIN WAS A STUNNING REPUDIATION OF THE PC. THE LEFT-LEANING NDP WON ONLY 7 SEATS, LOSING THEIR OFFICIAL PARTY STATUS IN ONTARIO. (MCCULLA/PRESS)

4. (U) ITC UPHOLDS WHEAT DUTY

THE U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION HAS DETERMINED THAT THE U.S. WHEAT INDUSTRY IS MATERIALLY INJURED BY IMPORTS OF HARD RED SPRING WHEAT FROM CANADA THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE DETERMINED IS SOLD IN THE U.S. AT LESS THAN FAIR VALUE AND IS SUBSIDIZED. THIS MEANS THAT USDOC WILL ORDER U.S. CUSTOMS TO IMPLEMENT THE PREDETERMINED COUNTERVAILING DUTY OF 8.87 PERCENT FOR IMPORTS OF RED SPRING WHEAT FROM CANADA. THE ITC RULED AGAINST SIMILAR DUTIES ON DURUM WHEAT FROM CANADA. (DE PIRRO/PRESS)

5. (U) IJC'S SCHORNACK CONFIRMED

THE SENATE CONFIRMED DENNIS SCHORNACK AS CHAIRMAN TO THE U.S. SECTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION (IJC). COMMISSIONER SCHORNACK HAS BEEN FULFILLING THE DUTIES OF THE U.S. CHAIR SINCE APRIL 2002 WHEN HE RECEIVED A RECESS APPOINTMENT. (NELSON)

6. (U) DAILY ACTIVITY REPORT, OCTOBER 6

7. (S) SYRIA RELEASES MAHER ARAR

8. (U) CANADIAN/SYRIAN CITIZEN MAHER ARAR WAS RELEASED BY SYRIAN AUTHORITIES ON SUNDAY FOLLOWING 12 MONTHS OF CAPTIVITY. ARAR WAS DETAINED AT JFK IN SEPTEMBER 2002 BY INS AND DEPORTED TO SYRIA. CANADIAN AUTHORITIES AT THE TIME PROTESTED THAT HE HAD BEEN DEPORTED TO SYRIA RATHER THAN CANADA.

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(MCCULLA/DAMASCUS 5832)

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